

Message Text

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54-21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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JUSE-00 /084 W

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O R 101000Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7582

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA JAP

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TAGS AND SUBJ ADDED)

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, JA

SUBJECT: LOCKHEED AFFAIR - CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

SUMMARY. DIET DELIBERATIONS HAVE COME TO A COMPLETE
STANDSTILL, PENDING RECEIPT OF THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER
TO PM MIKI. SPECULATION OVER FLEXIBILITY IN THE US
POSITION ON CONDITIONS HAS BEEN AROUSED BY SOURCES IN
BOTH THE US AND JAPAN. PRESS HAS DRAWN ATTENTION
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TO PRESENCE OF MIKI'S SON IN WASHINGTON AND HIS POSSIBLE

INVOLVEMENT IN LOCKHEED AFFAIR. END SUMMARY

1. DIET PROCEEDINGS. SINCE THE GOJ IS WITHHOLDING COMMENT ON THE INGERSOLL CONDITIONS, UNTIL A PRESIDENTIAL RESPONSE TO PM MIKI'S LETTER IS RECEIVED, "DELAY" IN RECEIPT OF THE PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE HAS BROUGHT DIET PROCEEDINGS TO A COMPLETE STANDSTILL FOR THE PAST THREE DAYS. CLAIMING THAT THE CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE FURNISHING OF LOCKHEED INFORMATION BY DEPSEC INGERSOLL IN HIS MARCH 5 STATEMENT COMPLETELY IGNORE THE DIET'S JOINT RESOLUTION, THE OPPOSITION HAS REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE IN DIET DELIBERATIONS AND DEMANDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT EXPLAIN ITS ATTITUDE ON THE INGERSOLL CONDITIONS. HOPING TO GET DIET PROCEEDINGS BACK ON THE TRACK, THE GOJ AGREED TO TRANSMIT OPPOSITION VIEWS "INFORMALLY" TO THE USG, BUT EVEN THIS MOVE FAILED TO MOLIFY THE OPPOSITION. THE GOJ AND LDP ARE GROWING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT FURTHER DELAYS IN THE PASSAGE OF THE BUDGET. FOR THE PRESENT, HOWEVER, THEY APPEAR TO SEE NO WAY OUT OF THE DIET IMPASSE UNTIL THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER IS RECEIVED AND THE GOVERNMENT FORMULATES ITS VIEWS ON THE INGERSOLL CONDITIONS. UNTIL THAT TIME, A CONTINUED OPPOSITION BOYCOTT SEEMS LIKELY.

2. SPECULATION ON INGERSOLL CONDITIONS. WASHINGTON NEWS REPORTS THAT A USG SOURCE HAD INDICATED IT WOULD BE "ALL RIGHT" TO RELEASE US INFORMATION AT THE TIME OF ARREST OF A CRIMINAL SUSPECT (I.E. BEFORE FORMAL INDICTMENT) HAVE AROUSED SOME PRESS SPECULATION HERE THAT THERE MAY BE SOME FLEXIBILITY IN THE US POSITION ON RELEASE. SPECULATION WAS ENCOURAGED BY A GOJ SOURCE WHO IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE INGERSOLL STATEMENT WOULD NOT PROVE A BARRIER TO THE RELEASE OF NAMES OR GROUNDS FOR SUSPICION AT THE TIME AN ARREST WARRANT WAS SOUGHT IN ACCORDANCE WITH JAPANESE JUDICIAL PROCEDURE. HE SAID THAT, AS "CRIMINAL PROSECUTION" WAS A BROAD TERM, RELEASE OF INFORMATION COULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE FORMAL INDICTMENT. JAPANESE EXPERTS ON AMERICAN LAW HAVE HAD A FIELD DAY OFFERING THEIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OWN INTERPRETATIONS.

3. RE STATE 57657, MARCH 10 ASAHI IN A POLITICAL GOSSIP COLUMN ON "SECRET ENVOYS" STATES THAT IN ADDITION TO PRESENCE OF MIKI CONFIDANT, KAZUSHIGE HIRASAWA, MIKI'S SON, KAKU, IS ALSO IN WASHINGTON, CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN SENATOR ROTH'S OFFICE. COLUMN SUGGESTS THAT THERE ARE RUMORS TO EFFECT THAT KAKU WAS BUSY

SEARCHING OUT NAMES IN THE CHURCH SUBCOMMITTEE, BUT
KAKU IS QUOTED AS DENYING EVER HAVING MET CHURCH.

4. COMMENT. GOJ, WHICH IS UNDER STRONG PRESSURE TO
COMMENT ON INGERSOLL CONDITIONS, HAD HOPED TO BUY TIME
BY AWAITING FORMAL PRESIDENTIAL RESPONSE. THERE IS
INTENSE INTEREST, THEREFORE, IN BOTH THE TIMING AND
CONTENT OF LETTER WHICH WILL SET THE STAGE FOR THE NEXT
ROUND OF THE LOCKHEED AFFAIR.
SHOESMITH

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